

Introduction to Canon Law (7,5 ECTS credits)

Level: 1st cycle

Discipline: THEOLOGY

Course ID: 0341

Admission requirements

General admission requirements for university studies. Students taking part in the course as a part of their Bachelor's degree program must have completed Course A, Introduction in Philosophy and Theology (30 ECTS credits) and Church History I – II (15 ECTS credits). Students taking part in the course as a freestanding course are expected to have corresponding prior knowledge.

Educational goals

After having completed the course the students are expected to:

- Have a historical, theological and juridical overview of the laws of the Church;
- Show good familiarity with some selected parts of *Codex Iuris Canonici* (esp. Books II, IV & VI);
- Demonstrate the ability to discuss the concrete consequences of the legislation, esp. regarding the rights of the faithful in the Sacraments of Initiation.

Course content

The course will give an introduction to the Ecclesiastical Laws and a few key canonical concepts.

Particular reference will be made to the following topics:

- Introduction to and History of Canon Law
- Persons in the Church: Faithful, Lay Persons, Clerics (& Loss of clerical state)
- Persons in the Church: Juridic Persons (esp. Associations) & Consecrated Life (esp. Religious Life)
- Sanctions in the Church (Types of Delicts, esp. Grave Delicts Reserved to the CDF)
- Hierarchical Structure of the Church (Power of Governance & Sinodality)
- Elements of Valid Marriage & Some Special Marriage Procedures

Teaching and examination

The teaching is in the form of lectures and class discussions on various topics. Assessment will be based on attendance, participation, 5 short written assignments submitted during the course (utmost one A4 page each) and the final written paper on a particular canonical aspect of the Sacraments of Initiation (8-10 A4 pages).

Bibliography

- Arrieta Juan, *Governance Structures within the Church* (Montreal, 2000)
- Assembly of Canadian Bishops, *Canonical and Pastoral Guidelines for Parishes* (Montreal, 2006)
- Beal John P., Coriden James A., Green Thomas J., *New Commentary on the Code of Canon Law. Study Edition* (Mahwah, NJ, 2000)
- *Codex Iuris Canonici. Swedish translation. Study edition* (Stockholm, 2005)
- Coriden James A., *An Introduction to Canon Law* (Mahwah, NJ, 1991)
- Coriden James A., *Canon Law as Ministry: Freedom and Good Order for the Church* (Mahwah, NJ, 2000)
- de Agar Martin, *A Handbook on Canon Law* (Montreal, 2007)
- Hite Jordan, Ward Daniel, *Readings, Cases, Materials in Canon Law: A Textbook for Ministerial Students* (Collegeville, Minnesota, 1990)
- Huels John, *Liturgy and Law* (Montreal, 2006)
- McKenna Kevin, *A Concise Guide to Canon Law* (Notre Dame, Indiana, 2000)
- Spiteri Lawrence, *Canon Law Explained: A Handbook for Laymen* (Nashua, New Hampshire, 2013)
- Woestman William, *Canon Law of the Sacraments for Parish Ministry* (Ottawa, 2007)

See also "Kursplaner: allmänna bestämmelser" (Course plans: General rules)

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